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ultrasonic range, as speech information, to output the resulting information depending on the bodily state, the using state or the using objectives of the user, for example, depending on whether or not the hearing-impaired user is able to recognize the speech in the ultrasonic range. The HA 1 may also be provided with a bone conduction ultrasound system to generate signals in the ultrasonic frequency range to output the generated signal to the user through e.g., an ultrasonic vibrator (see "Activation of the auditory cortex by ultrasound" Hosoi H., et al., Lancet Feb 14351 (9101), 496-7, 1998).

Beginning at page 70, line 11:

A<sup>21</sup>

The HA 1 can be used as a support for works mainly of hearing-impaired persons and persons with speech disorders in office work (as a wearable computer), authentication, voice-speech training, conference, reception by telephone or internet, program making, such as animation program, real scenes, news or music program, work in the space, transportation (pilot of space ship and airplane), various simulation works, employing VR and AR, operation by remote control (micro-surgery, research (marketing), military works, design works, work at home, operations under hostile conditions, such as under noise, such as works in construction site or plants, sorting works etc.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown in the Appendix. The claims as amended are presented immediately herebelow.

A<sup>22</sup>

10. (Amended) The speech transformation apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said output means is a middle ear implant mechanism and wherein said output control means generates a control signal for outputting the result of recognition and/or the result of recognition worked on or transformed as electric signal.

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27. (Amended) The speech transformation apparatus according to claim 25 wherein said acousto-electric transducing means detects the speech uttered by a person with voice-speech disorders, using a technique used for correcting the voice-speech